Meetings of the Departmental Council (JCM)

2608. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether meetings of the Department Council (JCM) of the Department of Personnel and Tranining has not been held during the last 3-4 years;

(b) whether the same is held up for want of agenda from the staff side;

(c) if so, the details of correspondence exchanged will the staff side so far in this matter;

(d) the action taken/ proposed to be taken to convene the meeting of the Council for discussing even the pending items already on the agenda; and

(e) the likely time limit by which the aforesaid meeting would be convened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir, the last meeting of the Department Council (JCM) of Department of Personnel & Training was held on 12.07.2002.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The secretary (Staff Side) was requested in August 2004 to send new agenda items. He was reminded in December 2004. Till date there has been no reponse.

(d) and (e) Action to convene the meeting of the Council will be taken as and when a response is received from Staff Side.

Legislation to protect whistle blowers

2609. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have recently informed the Supreme Court that the Central Vigilance Commission would protect, those exposing corruption in Government departments, till a legislation is enacted on the subject;

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made by Government, before the

Bench of Supreme Court and whether Chief Vigilance Commissioner would be given autonomous independent powers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government are seriously contemplating to bring a Bill in this connection; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Government has authorized Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), *vide* Resolution dated 21.4.2004, read with Corrigendum dated 29.4.2004, as 'Designated Agency', to receive written complaints from whistle blowers. There are provisions in the Resolution not to reveal the identity of the whistle blowers and to protect them from victimization and harassment.

(d) Questions does not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, a Bill in this connection is contemplated.

Non-reporting of vacancies by DoP&T

2610. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-reporting of vacancies by Department of Personnel and Training, UPSC has decided against holding of Section Officers, Private Secretaries Limited Departmental Competitive Examination for 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons behind withholding of vacancies for these examination;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for safeguarding the interests of candidates servicing in other Departments including Ministry of Defence, Armed Forces Head Quarters and Ministry of External Affairs; and

(d) in what manner the vacancies for this Exam would be dealt with in respect of these Departments?